THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for use in a node of a UMTS (universal mobile telecommunications system) Terrestrial Radio Access Network (UTRAN) based network for exchanging data with another node of the UTRAN based network, the method comprising the steps of:

formatting data into a UTRAN data frame, the UTRAN data frame comprising a header portion, a payload portion for conveying the data and a quality of service (QoS) field associated with the payload portion; and

transmitting the UTRAN data frame to the other node.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the payload portion comprises a number of dedicated channels (DCHs) and the QoS field, each dedicated channel comprising a number of transport blocks (TBs), and wherein the header portion comprises a number of transport format indicators (TFI) fields each associated with one of the number of DCHs, each TFI indicating a size of one of the number of DCHs.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the payload portion further comprises a payload type indicator field.

- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the QoS field is transmitted within the payload portion.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the UTRAN data frame further comprises a payload type indicator field.
- 6. (Original) A method for use in a wireless network element, the method comprising the steps of:

formatting data into a data frame, the data frame comprising a header portion, a payload portion and a quality of service (QoS) field associated with the payload portion; and

transmitting the data frame to another node of the wireless network.

- 7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the payload portion comprises a number of dedicated channels (DCHs) and the QoS field, each dedicated channel comprising a number of transport blocks (TBs), and wherein the header portion comprises a number of transport format indicators (TFI) fields each associated with one of the number of DCHs, each TFI indicating a size of one of the number of DCHs.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the payload portion further comprises a payload type indicator field.

- 9. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the QoS field is transmitted within the payload portion.
- 10. (Original) A transmission frame representing data embodied in a wireless transmission signal, the transmission frame comprising:

a payload portion comprising at least one dedicated transport channel (DCH) portion, wherein the at least one DCH portion further comprises a number of transport blocks (TB) for conveying data; and

a header comprising at least one transport format indicator (TFI) field for the at least one DCH portion, wherein a value of the TFI field represents a size of the at least one DCH; and

a quality of service (QoS) field associated with the payload portion.

- 11. (Original) The transmission frame of claim 10 wherein the QoS field is transmitted within the payload portion.
- 12. (Original) The transmission frame of claim 10 wherein the payload portion further comprises a payload type indicator field.

- 13. (Original) Apparatus for use in a wireless network element, the apparatus comprising:
- a formatter for forming a data frame, the data frame comprising a payload portion comprising at least one dedicated transport channel (DCH) portion, wherein the at least one DCH portion further comprises a number of transport blocks (TB) for conveying data, and a header portion comprising at least one transport format indicator (TFI) field for the at least one DCH portion, wherein a value of the TFI field represents a size of the at least one DCH; and a quality of service (QoS) field associated with the payload portion; and
- a radio frequency transmitter for transmitting the data frame to another wireless network element.
- 14. (Original) The data frame of claim 13 wherein the QoS field is transmitted within the payload portion.
- 15. (Original) The transmission frame of claim 13 wherein the payload portion further comprises a payload type indicator field.